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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 1232-4807

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Tsuneo KANDA

Group Art Unit: 1756

Serial No.: 10/033,081

Examiner: Young, Christopher G.

Filed: December 27, 2001

For: MASK AND PROJECTION EXPOSURE APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated August 15, 2003 containing a restriction requirement, Applicants respectfully submit the following response. Also, enclosed is a Preliminary Amendment.

09/16/2003 BSAYASI1 00000066 10033081

01 FC:1201
02 FC:1202

420.00 OP
216.00 OP

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement dated August 15, 2003, Applicant provisionally elects to pursue prosecution of Group III directed to claims 17-23. This election is made with traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that: (1) all groups of claims are properly presented in the same application; (2) undue diverse searching should not be required; and (3) all claims should be examined together. For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the election requirement should be withdrawn and an action on the merits of all the

claims is respectfully solicited.

If any issues exist, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

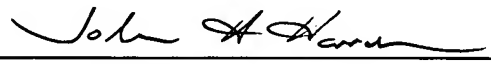
AUTHORIZATIONS

No fee is due by filing of this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this filing, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4807

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: September 15, 2003

By:


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